

## The Battle For Our Faith Judges 6+7 (6:12)

Remember last week we spoke of some powerful new Testament Principles that are authoritative on the pages of the Bible but in shoe leather in our lives may cause us to wonder.

First ~~1st~~ 2 Cor 10:4 → It's a battle field ~~not~~ not a recreation room, a fight not a game. Then #2 Rom 8:37 more than conquerors, I don't feel like more than conquerors, I'm getting whopped in a lot of my battles. #3 2 Cor 5:14 Always I mean I do ok every now and then, like Tennessee. Win some, lose some, feel like I'm losing a lot more than winning. But how do we walk in these principles, experience these principles. Well I believe we can realize these NT principles in some OT testament pictures. A picture is worth a 1000 words. To night I want us to see a key weapon in our warfare that we can sharpen and strengthen and that is our Faith in God. Jesus said have faith in God! Faith is resting all our weight upon Him. Learning completely on what God says. One def = Faith is stepping out on nothing with the confidence that if it don't hold you up, God will teach you how to fly. Gideon was the OT Thomas. He doubted everything. Gideon is working in the realm of carnality. Which is contrary to Faith. Carnality functions on what is seen. Faith functions on what is unseen. For carnality is looking at the physical world. For carnality is looking at the physical world.



## 1. Little Faith Will Have His Test

Ps 11:5 The Lord trieth the righteous. You need to thank God for trials, because you have been given faith. Faith given will be Faith tried. Why? Not to show God your Faith, ~~show you your Faith~~

A. Gideon Looks & Sees Nothing - Ch 6:11

Angel of the Lord, Christophany in OT pre-incarnate Christ, the Architect of Days speaks, But Gideon is operating in the flesh vs 13 Why all this? Flesh sees nothing. Gideon talks as though God not there. If you be here trust no senses. VS 13 Forsake = take the hands off.

Delivered = pick up and place. Huh? Confusion. Doubts caused by following senses. I don't feel saved or Man. Looks & sees nothing. Oft we see what we are <sup>instead</sup> of who we are. VS 15 Fear = L - cast in tubes, family, rust VS 17 Confused. His working on senses and really confused

B. God looks and sees it all. VS 12 The Lord is with you. feel it or not. Cause he said he was! 'Lord is with you' means above him beside, behind, before and beneath Him. Man of Valor - Gideon sees least, God looks and says with me you are a power. He reckoned with the How do you see yourself? See yourself as God sees you. VS 14

'Go in thy might.' God's might became Gideon's might! Why don't you see what God sees. You will look beyond your littleness see His likeness; your insufficiency see His all sufficiency; your impotence see His omnipotence; your earthiness see His eternalness. <sup>I instead of telling God how big you are, Tell me who He is. How</sup>

2 Corinthians 10:4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;

Romans 8:37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

2 Corinthians 2:14 Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ...

1<sup>st</sup> position: God Can!

2<sup>nd</sup> position: God will!

3<sup>rd</sup> position: God already has, with no visible evidence.

Romans 8:26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

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## II Lack of Faith must Have His Touch <sup>6:18-19</sup>

Gideon is showing his lack of faith, hes functioning by what he sees not what he knows. This is correctable, with the touch of God Lack of Faith becomes <sup>faith</sup> great

A. A Triumphant over flesh - There must be a triumphing over flesh, victory over senses. Here Gideon offering a sacrifice. Rom 12:1 we are to offer ourselves a sac. V520 Take the flesh, cleave that what is hating you. The flesh. Over past 13 years I have not got mine to do any better mean wicked. It must be placed on the rock. You'll never progress in faith until God does something to your flesh. When it was all over. No flesh remained only rock. This is the

circumcision of old man. Christ died on cross the old man could be daily crucified. Things don't bother <sup>God touch flesh</sup> ~~dear flesh~~

B. A Trail of Fervency Ch 6:38-40 -

Here we find the familiar story of dew + fleece. A lot of people talk about pulling out a fleece. That's OK as long as you know magnitude of your doubt. That's what we see in deficient faith of Gideon vs 37-38 note word "urined" = fervency. To get Dew out. Dew is a picture of H.G. He gets a bowl full of Dew. We know from Rom 8:26. Gideon is saying I don't know what to pray on this H.G. why don't you pray for me. There is a fervency of heart, torn over this inner conflict. When's the last time you bowed your head and told God I don't know what to pray on H.G. <sup>Paul's</sup>



III. Lordly Faith will Behold His Truth  
God gave Gideon faith + assurance! Now God's going  
to show him some things. The Lord will let you in on <sup>truth + will</sup> ~~secret~~ <sup>faith</sup>  
A. Little is little when you are in it - This is  
the first truth God showed Gideon. Ch 7:1

32,000 member army. Gideon felt pretty good  
Maybe struggling a little. God says too many, I want  
you to strut about what I did not you did. Not a God <sup>or will</sup> can  
but already has. "If any afraid go home" 22,000 left,  
Least I got 10,000. God - still too many. Water test  
300 left. VS 7 Now Gideon has gone from Great  
+ Wonderful things to doing impossible things. When  
have you asked God to do impossible things?  
That's when God takes over 120,000 midianites to 300 <sup>Gideon</sup> <sup>men</sup>

B. Little is Much when God is in it. - Ch 7:9  
Delivered - done deal. Go down there and  
scape out the victory due given you. Yes you  
can take Pharoah - shields, bodyguard. Ten seven where  
Gideon more scared than ever. Backed up near a tent over  
heard conversation is 12-13. God gives more assurance  
VS 15 worshipped, weeping + crying thanking God birth  
in heart "Arise!" take it. There are some things  
that can only be learned in worship. Worship  
builds faith. You know the rest of the story. Pots + shields  
1000's of midianites killed each other. This is the truth <sup>God</sup>

IV Closing What did Gideon + Men do apart  
from breaking pots + shouting to defeat Midianites  
Nothing. Followed God, trusted God, let God  
keep the battle. Our Faith is key weapon in <sup>Battles</sup> <sup>Earth</sup>

Every battle is won by Him  
doing it all through us and in  
us!

Little faith is much when God is in  
it.

God wants to take us from believing  
he can, to he will see he  
already has!